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California State Senate

SENATOR ANDY VIDAK

FOURTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT



VICE CHAIR BANKING AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

EDUCATION

GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION NATURAL RESOURCES AND WATER



September 28, 2015

Tom Wheeler Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

RE: MB Docket No. 15-149

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

I am writing to support the merger of Charter Communications, Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks. I proudly serve District 14 in the California State Senate, which includes Fresno, Kern, Kings and Tulare counties.

This area of the Central Valley is the most impoverished in the state, and possibly in the nation, with unemployment rates in some areas three to four times that of state and national averages. New Charter's commitment to bring call centers, and the jobs they create, back to the United States is one of the reasons I support this merger. The possibility that call centers could be located in the Central Valley is welcomed.

Many folks in rural and disadvantaged communities, like those I represent, don't have affordable access to the Internet. New Charter's commitment to reach out to those folks through a low-income program that would provide high-quality broadband to households at a discounted rate is another reason I support the merger. I know that many of my constituents would benefit from this program, and I hope it would encourage similar initiatives in the telecommunications industry and beyond.

I ask that you join me in supporting the merger.

Sincerely

Andy Vidak Senate District 14